IN THE SPECIFICATION

Paragraph [0063] in the substitute specification has been amended as follows:

[0063] As an example, Figure 1 shows the typical linear hysteresis loop characteristic for the resonators annealed according to the present invention. The corresponding magneto-acoustic response is given in Figure 2. The figures are comparative examples (alloys No. 1 and 2 from table 1). The results shown for alloy no. 1 and 2 are typical of linear resonators as they are presently used in markers fro electronic article surveillance (See United States Patent Nos. 6,254,695 and 6,359,563) ~~co=pending applications Serial No. 09/133,172 and Serial No. 09/247,688.~~ These alloys, however, are beyond the scope of the present invention because they have an appreciable Co-content of more than about 10at% which increases raw material cost.